

TRACES LANGUAGE TO THE LITHUANIANS

Prof. Bender's Lecture Tends to Prove Their Land That of Indo-Europeans.

DEDUCTION BY WORDS

Common Origin for Many Asiatic Tongues and Those of Europe and Americas.

Was the language of the ancient Lithuanians the mother tongue from which has descended many of the languages of the present period?

That it might very well have been is the conclusion arrived at by Harold H. Bender, professor of Indo-Germanic philology at Princeton University, after a careful research in which other theories are discarded by the process of elimination.

In the later Stone Age, or Neolithic period, Prof. Bender declared in a lecture at Princeton on the subject, there lived somewhere a people or group of peoples who spoke a tongue from which were descended the languages of the Hindus and the Persians, the Greeks and the Romans, the Slavs, the Celts and the Teutons, including the Scandinavians and the English. This, Prof. Bender points out, means a common origin for the present speech of perhaps a quarter of a billion of persons in Asia and of most of the inhabitants of Europe and North and South America.

Comparative study of these various languages, Prof. Bender continues, "has reconstructed to a considerable extent not only the speech, but also the daily life, the government and the religion of the Neolithic people known as Aryans, Indo-Germanic or Indo-European, which had split into groups and wandered apart before the dawn of recorded history."

That this mother tongue whence came the modern languages was employed by a people of Asia, is a theory generally held by philologists. One of the most widely accepted arguments in favor of this theory was the assumption of close contact between early Indo-European and Semitic civilizations. The evidence, Prof. Bender points out, consisted mainly of a mingling in prehistoric times of the Indo-European decimal system and the Babylonian duodecimal system. This argument is a general one, although several scholars have presented claims in behalf of particular localities in Asia; others have laid the home of the Indo-Europeans north of Afghanistan, still others for the Plateau of Pamir and others for Armenia.

Common Word for Honey.

"But," Prof. Bender declares, "modern philological research has shown that almost every Indo-European language shares with its cognates a common word for honey, or for an intoxicating drink made from honey. The first stem melit is not represented in Indo-European languages, but it is widespread elsewhere as in: Latin, mel honey; Gothic, milp; Anglo-Saxon, melle, literally honey dew or mead. The second stem is distributed practically over the entire field."

It is clear, therefore, that the primitive home of the Indo-Europeans must have been a honey land, where the honey bee abounded. Now, it seems to have been proved that the bee did not exist in India, nor in Turkestan, and that none of the Asiatic sites which have been seriously considered as the possible home of the Indo-Europeans falls within the bee belt.

While all Asia is not eliminated by the foregoing evidence, the Indo-European people probably lived in the temperate zone, arguments in favor of any remaining part are weakened. Prof. Bender finds by the fact that research has shown no common Indo-European language for elephant, camel, lion, tiger, monkey, crocodile, parrot, banyan or palm, but that there are common words for oak, beech, pine, birch, bear, wolf, deer, rabbit, mouse, dog, eagle, hawk, duck, partridge, pheasant, snake, tortoise, crab, ant and bee.

Other arguments in favor of Europe as the home of the Indo-Europeans are seen in the rejection of the argument that human migration has always been westward. There have been, Prof. Bender declares, several early tribal or national movements in the other direction—from Europe to Asia. The professor again applies the process of elimination eventually, concluding that Lithuania is the most logical site of the home of the users of the ancient mother tongue.

Countries That Are Left.

"If it be granted," he says, "that the original home of the Indo-Europeans probably was in Europe it is possible still further to restrict the place of origin. We can at once cut off the south, the west and the north of Europe, because these regions were earlier inhabited by non-Indo-European peoples."

"This leaves us in general southern Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, part of France, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, the Ukraine, Poland, Lithuania, the Balkan countries and southwestern Russia."

"Now we can take a further step and cut off all of Europe that borders on the sea; is sufficient evidence that the Indo-Europeans were not familiar with the great ocean."

"The various ethnological and archeological arguments for Germany and Scandinavia seem to have failed. The Teutonic languages of the Netherlands, Scandinavia, Germany and Austria have drifted, in their fundamental treatment of consonants (Grimm's Law) and in the decay of their inflections, so far away from the mother tongue as represented by the other Indo-European languages that it is difficult to conceive of

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13 OF BARNARD'S BRILLIANT PICKED FOR A NEW SYSTEM

Dean Gildersleeve in Announcing Plan Says Too Much Time Goes to Poor Students, Too Little to Good Ones.

Thirteen exceptional Barnard College students have been selected for an educational experiment which aims to make of them scholars and specialists in their chosen subjects instead of having them kept at work on the prescribed courses with their 700 less brilliant sisters.

Dean Virginia G. Gildersleeve, who recently returned after making a study of European university methods, announced the new course resembling the honors course of the English universities. Too much time has been spent in the past on poor students and not enough on good ones, she said.

"This plan," she explained, "is an effort to avoid some of the faults characteristic of our American college system; for example, that of forcing a student to spend a great deal of her time in class rooms listening to lectures and running to and fro from various college engagements."

"It also attempts to counteract the tendency to think of scholarship in terms of courses, grades and points rather than subjects or fields of knowledge and that unfortunate American tendency to split up one's knowledge into half yearly fragments which are forgotten quickly after the midyear and final examinations."

Among the students chosen for the new course and their subjects are: Botany, Nelly Jacob, Gall, Switzerland; English, Anna E. Lincoln, 1303 North Dearborn avenue, Chicago, and Margaret Trusler, Indianapolis; French, Phyllis Haig, Hahlgrove, Neb.; Greek and Latin, Dorothy F. Scholze of Providence, R. I.; physics, Katherine H. Shea, 58 Elm street, Charlestown, Mass.

The primitive home as lying within originally Teutonic territory. "We have left, finally, the great plains of central and southeastern Europe, which embraces, roughly, the present Poland, Lithuania, Ukraine and Russia south and west of the Volga; toward this region the balance of probability seems to lean. Almost every condition is satisfied by the conception of the Indo-Europeans as inhabiting some part of this plain as late as 3000 or 2500 B. C. (they knew at least one metal before the dispersion, certainly copper), early differentiated linguistically into distinct groups and covering a vast territory, a pastoral people just at the beginning of agriculture, but still nomadic enough to change their habitat freely under changing economic or political conditions."

Stayed 5,000 Years.

"Geographically this central European plain lies in the very heart of Indo-European territory as we now know it, between the eastern and western groups, and adjacent to the Finno-Ugric, with which Indo-European must early have come in contact."

"Nor can we ignore the notable fact that right here we find the Lithuanian, which has preserved into modern living speech more of the Indo-European past than any other language on earth. Not a scientific evidence, historic or linguistic, has been produced to indicate that the Lithuanians have ever stirred from their present dwelling place since they separated from the other Indo-European speaking peoples. Indeed, it has been made very probable, on the grounds of linguistics, natural science and history, that the Lithuanian stock has dwelt in its present location for at least 5,000 years, which would approximate the duration of the Indo-European period, so far as it is known. There is probably no other part of Indo-European territory for which there is so much evidence against autochthonous, non-Indo-European predecessors."

BARBED WIRE FENCES FURNISH TELEPHONES

Dakota Farmers Resort to Novel Expedient.

McINTOSH, S. D., Nov. 26.—Barbed wire fence telephones are being installed in two communities in this county that have never had a telephone. County Agent O. M. Osborne reports. Plans are being furnished by his office.

Corson county, eighty-seven miles long and sparsely settled, had little telephone service until Mr. Osborne thought of using the fence lines. To-day the majority of its farmers are connected, although there are still some, in the central part of the county six to eight miles from any neighbor, not on the line.

Worn out inner tubes have been utilized for insulation. The cost for each farm home, for instruments and line averages about \$20.

"Each line is a general call which enables the farmers in an entire community to hold what amounts to a round table discussion on problems affecting the community," the county agent reports.

"One of the great results of these telephone systems from the standpoint of agriculture is that they tie the newly organized farm bureau community closer more firmly together. The county agent is enabled to make announcements of meetings, etc., as he never was before."

"The community is also able quickly to get in touch with the county agent in case of an outbreak of insect pests such as army worms or grasshoppers."

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Does Not Think Girls of To-day Are a Bit Worse Than Their Mothers Were.

There'll be no regulation of skirt lengths, no ban on bare knees, no outcry against the bobbing of tresses or the parking of corsets by her employees when Miss Annie Mathews takes over on January 1 the office to which she has just been elected as Register of the county of New York—the richest political plum that has ever fallen into the lap of a woman in New York if not in the entire United States.

Not that the \$12,000 a year Register-elect hasn't very decided ideas on clothes and all the allied arts so precious to women. Indeed, she has spent the greater part of her life studying the clothes problem, first as dressmaker, then a designer, and finally as an importing modiste.

But she has even more decided ideas on the question of personal liberty.

"I am opposed to all prohibition," she said.

"It is impossible to make women or men moral by legislation. The human race can be improved only by education that will make them appreciate the good and the artistic."

"If any of my young women employees ask for my advice on clothes I shall give it. And the most important thing I will tell them is to wear something appropriate for the occasion. A woman's business attire or house attire certainly should be simple."

Busy herself at the time receiving congratulations at her campaign headquarters, Miss Mathews's attire emphasized her formula. A plain blue serge dress, softened at the throat by a bit of embroidered linen collar. Black high shoes. No jewelry. Copper colored hair simply coiffed.

"Skirt lengths, bobbed hair, the question of corsets or none," she went on, "with a twinkle from behind her place, 'are largely matters of taste and of figure. All this talk about depravity among young women makes me a bit weary. I believe the young people are as good as young people ever were."

"Of course there are and always have been extremists. But—well, I don't think I will be troubled with these, for I can tell a great deal about character by the clothes one wears. Yes, even the standardized clothes of men."

Miss Mathews enters on her new job of keeping the county's deeds, mortgages and leases with but one preconceived idea—that there shall be no prejudice either for or against any of her 150 employees because they happen to be women.

COOKS OR SERVANTS PAST 40 GO JOBLESS

Housewives Seek Young Girls Who Are Neat Appearing and Can Be Trained.

SAME WITH WAITRESSES

West Side Rooming House Holds 132 Rheumatic, Flat Footed Derelicts.

No one wants a cook or general houseworker who is past 40 years of age. Housewives are all looking for the young, neat appearing, experienced and readily adaptable girl who isn't crippled by years of hard work. She has usurped the place of the old fashioned domestic, who has flat feet and rheumatism, who liked to sit by the fire and sip tea and who let herself grow bulky and unattractive.

Because there is no longer a demand for this old servant, lodging houses are filled with their jobless type. One rooming house on the West Side houses 132 of them, according to Mrs. Belle Donner, who has an employment agency at 659 Sixth avenue and who recently made the foregoing statements before a conference called to settle the problem of the working girl and housing conditions.

And the rooming house with its 132 more or less decrepit and hopeless cooks and houseworkers is not the only one sheltering the out of date servant, said Mrs. Donner. She told of several of these houses and flats, where from two to eight live, usually paying a small rent to a woman who is a retired servant and has managed to furnish a small cold water flat with her savings. Tenth avenue has several of these flats and houses.

The one mentioned particularly by Mrs. Donner, where the 132 live, is managed by a woman. It is clean and neat. The tenants pay about \$2 or \$2.50 a week for a room or for a cot in a large room where ten sometimes sleep. The number of tenants varies, for occasionally one or two manage to get employment for a few days, rarely as a steady thing. They are permitted to bring in their own food and cook it in the house, so that their living cost is as little as possible.

"I tell you there is no place for the old style domestic," Mrs. Donner said, "and we who know them and know how they have struggled to live wonder how they are going to become of them. There are thousands of such women in the city. They denied themselves suitable clothing and necessities when they had work in order to save a little. And when their savings are gone where will they go? There ought to be a home for such women. But they don't want to enter an old women's home."

"I know of a servant who was in the

employ of a family for nearly twenty years, and now that she is old and too crippled to be active she is left to take care of herself. A woman about 30 years old came to my office last week to find work. I sent her to see the proprietor of a restaurant who wanted a waitress. After she had been to see him he telephoned me and asked what I meant by sending him an old woman. He said he wanted a young girl. They all do. If they consider 30 old what chance have these women who are past 40?"

'ALL BROWN' BATTERY IS NOW REORGANIZED

Most of Artillery Unit Made Up of Students.

PROVIDENCE, Nov. 26.—Battery A, an "all Brown battery" of field artillery, horsed and equipped with French 75 millimeter rifles, has been formed here as a part of the reorganized battalion of the 18th Field Artillery authorized by the War Department under plans for development of the National Guard. Ninety-five per cent. of the personnel of the units consists of students at Brown University, and the battery is being organized during the war, when it was a part of the Twenty-sixth (Yankee) Division. Work of reorganization began last spring and the last battery was inspected for Federal recognition this week. All the horses of the battalion are available for use by the student members from the university when the mounts are not needed for drill purposes. The day following commencement exercises at Brown the battery begins its annual two weeks tour of duty, and the command will probably go to Barnstable on Cape Cod for service firing.

Battery A has many traditions of service extending for more than half a century. In 1916, when the National Guard was ordered for service on the Mexican border, Battery A was in the field, horsed and equipped for duty. That year it held the highest rating of any field artillery unit in the National Guard. Battery A of Massachusetts taking second place. While on the border it achieved fame as the first battery in the history of the United States to take the road with nine full sections. During the world war Battery A was cited many times for gallantry in action. It was the training school for more than 100 commissioned officers. The present commanding officer is Capt. Francis W. Rollins, a Brown University alumnus, while all its officers have risen from the grade of private since 1916.

CAN BUY ANYTHING THERE.

Brooklyn purposes showing all those who attend the Brooklyn Manufacturers Industrial Exposition in the Twenty-third Regiment Armory in January that they who decide to live in Kings can purchase therein everything that living requires. It is Brooklyn's idea to demonstrate it can supply everything from the collar case to the roof.

In short, this exposition is intended to demonstrate that one might be born in Brooklyn and never leave it and miss nothing of the desirability of civilization except travel.

WOMEN POLICE READY FOR DUTY AT SCHOOLS

100 Captains Receive Instructions on Traffic Handling.

The 100 captains of the women's police reserves who are to command the women reserves who go on duty tomorrow morning regulating traffic adjacent to public schools were summoned to a conference yesterday with former Inspector John F. Dwyer at the office of the reserves, 156 Greenwich street.

Mr. Dwyer gave the captains complete instructions, which they are to pass on to their subordinates, and said it seemed certain to him that the women would be able to handle traffic without difficulty.

FINDS GERMANS WORK HARD.

SHEFFIELD, England, Nov. 26.—Lord Haldane, who recently visited Germany, says he found the Germans working hard. They had put aside all thoughts of armaments, because they realized that armaments did not pay. They realized, however, that something which would pay was the application of the science which they had learned before the war and which they would have applied in peace if they had not been interfered with by a small military party. Now they were determined to be free from interference of the military party. The output of scientific books had become enormous. All classes of people were working hard and unemployment hardly existed.

They had no money except paper, which had badly depreciated, and to restore their normal condition they had found work by taking in other people's washing. He said he saw a large number of ships from Tyne being repaired in German dockyards, because German dockyards could do the work cheaper than the British workers.

GULF OYSTERS HEALTHY.

GALVESTON, Tex., Nov. 26.—Galveston oystermen take issue with French scientists who say that oysters have been suffering from a gripe, and that as a result of the disease the number of the oyster beds is being decreased rapidly. The only thing from which the Galveston Bay bivalve is suffering, fishermen here say, is excessive fat, and they declare that the oyster here this season is in size and quality those of former years.

CLOSE ANOTHER WOMEN'S JAIL.

CARLEISLE, Eng., Nov. 26.—In consequence of a decrease in the number of women convicts, the women's prison here is being closed. Recent years have seen a gradual closing down of prisons for women in this country and there are now only 25 left of the 109 which were in existence several years ago.

Women prisoners have decreased from 3,100 in 1914 to 1,209 in October, 1920.

MARY TODD'S HOME TO BE A MEMORIAL

Old Lexington House Where Lincoln Courted Her Is Confectionery.

\$20,000 FUND IS NEEDED

Building Admirably Preserved, but Birthplace Has Gone Long Ago.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Nov. 27.—The home of Mary Todd Lincoln, where she lived from early childhood until her marriage to Abraham Lincoln, will be purchased as a memorial to her and a museum for the preservation of Lincoln furniture, manuscripts and other relics owned in Lexington.

The old Todd home at 574 West Main street, once a saloon and now a soft drink stand and boarding house for railroad employees, is on the market for the first time in many years. The site is being sought for business purposes by persons who wish to tear down the home. The owner is T. N. Arthur, proprietor of the confectionery.

The building is in a splendid state of preservation and the quaintness of the interior has not been destroyed by several partitions, easily removed. The historic rooms where Mary Todd spent her happy childhood, where she received Mr. Lincoln, and where they visited after their marriage have not been changed.

While the Lincoln farm at Hodgenville and the cabin in which he was born have been acquired and beautified for the nation at the cost of a million dollars, the part which Mrs. Lincoln had in preserving the nation has not been recognized. The house in which she was born has been destroyed, only part of the old foundation remaining as the basis for another home at 591 West Short street, Lexington.

An option has been obtained on the property and civic and historical clubs have become interested. The property can be bought for \$14,000 and it is thought that \$5,000 or \$7,000 would be needed to restore it.

June 18, 1856, Abraham Lincoln, his wife, Mary Todd Lincoln, and others conveyed the property to Benjamin F. Edge to settle the estate of Robert S. Todd, deceased, and the deed of record is in the Fayette county Court House. Plans for the ceremonies attending the dedication, if the home is purchased, would include an invitation to Robert Lincoln, son of the martyred president, and Mrs. Ben Fardin Helm, a resident of Fayette county, who is a sister of Mrs. Lincoln.

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